



REVEILLE'S GPS WEEKLY SCRIPTURE GUIDE

Explore scriptures and daily devotionals that reflect on this Sunday's sermon message. Sign up to receive the daily devotional email at www.bit.ly/devotional-rumc.

April 5, 2026
EASTER SUNDAY

Sermon Title: "A Resurrection that Works" by Rev. Dr. Peter Moon

Use the space below to reflect on the questions in this week's devotionals, make class and sermon notes, and write down prayers and concerns.

Questions for small groups and individual reflection:

1. The resurrection has many meanings. Can you identify a couple? Why is it such a big deal that Jesus rose from the dead?
2. Holy Thursday is the day we recognize Jesus by doing two things: instituting the sacrament of Holy Communion and washing the disciples' feet. Describe ways that you deny your own needs to serve another.
3. Good Friday is, of course, the day when we remember Jesus' death on the cross. It is surprising how many people struggle with the basic question of the day. Why did Jesus have to die on a cross? How would you answer that?

Monday, March 30: Read John 20:1-10

This Holy Week, we are called to slow down and walk with Christ. The journey will end with the empty tomb – the ultimate victory of life over death – a victory that means our sins are forgiven, we will live eternally, and because Christ is victorious over everything, we too can be more than conquerors. This message of hope and victory is so desperately needed in today's world, as it was needed for Mary Magdalene, Simon Peter, and all the earliest followers of Jesus, who first approached the empty tomb with fear, grief, and despair. Yet this week we will not skip over the walk to the cross, for one of the overlooked messages of the resurrection is that it proves the eternal fruitfulness of Christ's lifestyle of dying to self – a central tenet of a true life of discipleship. Are we ready to walk with Jesus? Are we ready to walk all the way to the cross, to the tomb, and beyond the tomb, finding hope and victory instead of grief and despair?

➤ **Relationship Opportunity:** *Discuss what the resurrection means to you. Can it mean many things?*

Tuesday, March 31: Read John 20:11-18

Jesus was changed after the resurrection. Scripture is vague about exactly how, but today's reading shows that Mary Magdalene didn't recognize him at first. Other disciples would struggle at first, too. When Jesus died to self, he rose new...changed. Could we do the same? While our dying to self is symbolic or metaphorical, we can be like Christ and be changed. What can we leave behind if we sacrifice our own self-interest, privilege, and sin? What will we gain instead? How will it change us? How could it change the world?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Reflect on what might need to "die" in your life in order to be truly changed, reborn, and renewed? What might then be able to live?*

Wednesday, April 1: Read Colossians 3:1-4

Today's passage begins with the powerful words, "Since, then, you have been raised in Christ..." How would we end this sentence on our own? When we celebrate Easter Sunday, what are we celebrating that has been changed in our own lives "since we have been raised in Christ?" And raised from what? The writer of Colossians goes on to say, "For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God." What does that mean? And what could then be revealed?

- **Relationship Opportunity:** *Discuss how your life is different because he is risen. Could it be more different? How?*

Thursday, April 2: HOLY THURSDAY: Read John 13: 1-17, 31-35

Before Christ physically died on the cross for our sins, he sacrificed his life, his ego, his status, and his rightful privileges as rabbi, teacher, and Son of God to take the lowliest position in a household at the time – washing another's feet. Any of us who have participated in a Holy Thursday service where volunteers washed our feet know how uncomfortably intimate and somehow wrong it feels to have volunteers, often church leaders, wash our feet. Anyone who has volunteered to wash feet knows how transformative it is. Imagine how it felt to have your feet washed by Christ. How would it change you? How could you be changed if you served others to this extent every day? What would need to die in you?

- **Study Opportunity:** *Research writings on the significance of Jesus washing his disciples' feet.*

Friday, April 3: GOOD FRIDAY: Read John 18-19

Do not skip today's long, painful reading. Do not skip straight to the victory of the empty tomb. As Christians, we all struggle with this part – the pain, the sacrifice, the death. As humans, we want quick and easy victory, not slow...torturous... unfair...humiliating suffering and death. Yet Jesus described himself as the seed that goes into the earth, dies, and then ultimately bears much fruit. We are called to do the same. What can happen to us on the way to the cross? What is Jesus giving us through his death?

- **Discipleship Opportunity:** *Find a new, deeper way to observe Good Friday this year.*

Saturday, April 4: HOLY SATURDAY: SCRIPTURE MEMORIZATION & DISCIPLESHIP OPPORTUNITY

Memorize the following scripture and find a way to actively live it out today, tomorrow, and all days:

"Since then, you have been raised with Christ, set your hearts on things above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. Set your minds on things above, not on earthly things.

For you died, and your life is now hidden with Christ in God. When Christ, who is your life, appears, then you also will appear with him in glory."

Sunday, April 5: EASTER SUNDAY: Let us prepare our hearts and minds with our Prayer of

Confession: *Gracious Lord, today we celebrate your resurrection. You are risen indeed! As we gather around your empty tomb this morning, we confess that we fail to understand or even believe. We fail to grasp the power and possibility that is ours because of that empty tomb. We still see darkness in that tomb, instead of the brightness of the angels within. Forgive us, O Lord; lead us into your ways anew, for we ask it in the name of Christ our Lord. Amen.*